



## State of Tennessee

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 289

**By Representatives Cooper, Towns, Lois DeBerry, Naifeh, Larry Miller, Johnnie Turner, Parkinson, Hardaway, Kernell, Coley, Shaw, John DeBerry, Gilmore**

**and**

**Senators Berke, Finney, Marrero, Herron, Harper**

A RESOLUTION to honor and celebrate the Dr. Benjamin Hooks Inaugural Memorial 5K Run/Walk.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is proud to salute those exemplary events which honor the memories of those intrepid Americans who advanced the ongoing struggle for civil and human rights and promoted racial equality in our State; and

WHEREAS, one such extraordinary event is the Dr. Benjamin Hooks Inaugural Memorial 5K Run/Walk, a non-competitive race for students, families, professionals, and athletes alike; and

WHEREAS, designated to begin at 9:30 a.m. on April 30, 2011, this program is sponsored by the Nashville Civil Rights Museum and the Dr. Benjamin Hooks Job Corps Center (Center); and

WHEREAS, previously known as the Memphis Job Corps Center, the Center is an outstanding institution dedicated to helping young people improve the quality of their lives through career, technical, and academic training and was re-named in 2006 to honor the legendary civil rights leader and former Job Corps board member, Dr. Benjamin Hooks; and

WHEREAS, a consummate lawyer, brilliant businessman, and beloved Baptist minister, Benjamin Hooks was the first African-American criminal court judge in Tennessee since Reconstruction and the first African-American member of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hooks was a valuable member of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, Southern Christian Leadership Conference and worked assiduously for the passage of landmark civil rights legislation as the Executive Director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his peerless achievements, Benjamin Hooks received a plethora of honors and accolades before he went onto his great reward on April 15, 2010; he received the prestigious Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush in 2007 and was inducted into the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame at the Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the NAACP bestows the Benjamin L. Hooks Distinguished Service Award upon those who implement successful policies and programs which promote equal opportunity, and the University of Memphis created the Benjamin L. Hooks Institute for Social Change in his honor; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this body pause to recognize and commend this laudable event as its participants honor the memory of a visionary leader whose courage and wisdom positively shaped the tenor of his times; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and celebrate the Dr. Benjamin Hooks Inaugural Memorial 5K Run/Walk and applaud the staff and employees of the Dr. Benjamin Hooks Job

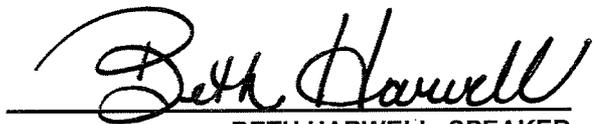
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Corps Center and the National Civil Rights Museum as they pay tribute to the impeccable character and extraordinary accomplishments of the late Dr. Benjamin Hooks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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ADOPTED: APRIL 28, 2011



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2011

  
BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR